

Appl. No. : 09/593,587
Filed : June 13, 2000

Claims 3-8 are dependent on Claim 1, and it is respectfully submitted that they are also allowable for at least the same reasons. Although Claims 5 and 6 currently stand withdrawn from consideration, as these claims are dependent on Claim 1, and Claim 1 is allowable, the applicant requests that Claims 5 and 6 be considered and allowed in this application.

Claims 1-8 have also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112 Paragraph 2. Amendments to Claims 1, 3, and 7 addressing the Examiner's points have also been made.

Claims 10 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112 Paragraph 1. Although the applicant disagrees with the Examiner's assertion about descriptive support for the elements of this claim, the passage referred to by the Examiner has been removed from Claim 10. The applicant submits that Claim 10 as amended and Claim 11 are fully described and enabled by the specification as filed. Support for these limitations may be found throughout the specification and figures, including specifically page 8 line 2-4 and page 12 line 12 through page 14, line 20.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 10 and 11 are allowable. Claims 12 and 13 also depend from Claim 10. Although Claims 12 and 13 currently stand withdrawn from consideration, as these claims are dependent on Claim 10, and Claim 10 is allowable, the applicant requests that Claims 12 and 13 be considered and allowed in this application.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 12/28/01

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. (Amended) A thermal interface comprising:
a first surface;
a second surface; and
a plurality of elongate fibers ~~in the space between and~~ in contact with at least one of said first surface and said second surface, wherein at least some of said fibers have a cross sectional diameter of less than approximately 1 micron and are bonded to a portion of other fibers having a cross sectional diameter of greater than approximately 3 microns.
3. (Amended) The thermal interface of Claim 2 1, wherein said portion comprises ~~the tips~~ a tip portion.
7. (Amended) A method of making a thermal interface comprising attaching whiskers having a diameter of less than about 1 micron to ~~the tips~~ tip portions of fibers having a diameter of greater than about 3 microns.
10. (Amended) A thermally conductive gasket comprising:
a plurality of fibers having first and second ends, said fibers being predominantly aligned ~~such that said first ends are positioned adjacent to a first face of said gasket and such that said second ends are positioned adjacent to a second face of said gasket;~~
a material located predominantly proximate to said first ends, said material improving heat transfer between said first ends and a device ~~in contact with~~ positioned adjacent to said first ~~face~~ ends.

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